

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

2nd Congressional District

Every year, the state of Washington receives about \$8.77 million in funding from the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCHBG). Snohomish County receives about \$365,000 in funding to improve the health and lives of pregnant and reproductive-age women, infants, children and adolescents (including those with special healthcare needs).

In 2014, MCHBG funds directly benefited more than 14,000 pregnant women, approximately 87,000 newborns, more than 7,700 children with special healthcare needs, and more than 46,000 other children, adolescents, and adults statewide.

Key areas of focus for MCHBG funds based on National Standards for System and Care include family-professional partnerships, access to care, community-based services and supports, transition to adulthood and quality assurance and improvement.

The MCHBG supports work in the 2nd Congressional District



Community-based services help stabilize Everett family

One of our Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) public health nurses recently helped a homeless 5-year-old boy and his mother. Nurse Sue (left) met the child during a weekly visit to the local homeless shelter, where she conducts health education and coordinates referrals to community-based supports.

The boy was sick with the flu when Sue met him. The family could not afford care because they did not have medical insurance. In addition, the mother had difficulty attending to his medical needs because she was experiencing mental illness and abusing drugs at the time.

Sue helped the mother apply for Apple Health (Medicaid) so the boy could receive attention for flu-related dehydration. When she visited the shelter to provide health education to the residents, she would check in with the mother to coach her in effective coping skills to deal with struggles she was having interacting with her son. Sue also encouraged the mother to enter a substance abuse treatment program.

The mother enrolled in a substance abuse program and the two live in transitional housing. The boy is in kindergarten and he receives regular mental health treatment to improve behavioral concerns.

For more information about how the department uses these important funds, contact:

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